



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:
22.04.1998 Bulletin 1998/17

(51) Int Cl.⁶: **G06F 17/30**

(21) Application number: **97305808.4**

(22) Date of filing: **01.08.1997**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
 NL PT SE**
 Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV RO SI

(30) Priority: **02.08.1996 US 691263**
03.02.1997 US 794782
28.03.1997 US 827263

(71) Applicant: **SYMBOL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**
Holtsville, New York 11742-1300 (US)

(72) Inventors:
 • **Klein, John**
Morgan Hill, California 95037 (US)
 • **Woloschin, Steve**
Smithtown, New York 11787 (US)
 • **sanders, robert**
Bayport, New York 11705 (US)
 • **Katz, Joseph**
Stony Brook, New York 11790 (US)
 • **Patel, Methul**
Commack, New York 11725 (US)

- **Swartz, Jerome**
Old Field, New York 11733 (US)
- **Swift, Philip**
Lexington, Massachusetts 02173 (US)
- **Herrod, Allan**
Farmingville, New York 11738 (US)
- **Mulla, Altaf**
merrick, New York 11566 (US)
- **Lert, John**
Westport, CT 06880 (US)
- **Tan, Chinh**
Centereach, New York 11720 (US)
- **Barkan, Edward**
Miller Place, New York 11764 (US)
- **Sheppard, Howard**
Great River, New York 11739 (US)
- **Jwo, Chin-Hung**
Mount Sinai, New York (US)

(74) Representative: **Roberts, Gwilym Vaughan et al**
KILBURN & STRODE,
20 Red Lion Street
London WC1R 4PJ (GB)

(54) **Data retrieval system and method**

(57) Various problems arise in accessing the Internet. For example, Internet files have complex file addresses which are prone to incorrect entry by a user, giving rise to access of unwanted files. In one aspect the invention solves this problem by encoding the file address in a bar code symbol, decoding the bar code symbol and accessing the relevant file automatically.

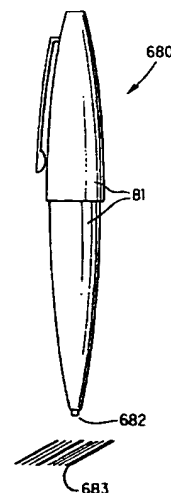


FIG. 21